

Barry S. Drucker
Minerals Management Service
381 Elden Street, MS 4030
Herndon, VA 20170-4817

Dear Mr. Drucker:

This is the Bi-Monthly Status Letter for Cooperative Agreement Number 1435-01-02-CA-85050, *Field Testing of a Physical/Biological Monitoring Methodology for Offshore Dredging and Mining Operations*. As the project is nearing an end and as the only ongoing work is the preparation of the report, I suggest that this be the last bi-monthly report.

Task 1: Biology: Bob Diaz and Christina Tallent state that they completed the final field sampling effort during the first week of June 2005. Benthic macrofauna samples from that collection have been processed and biomass measured. The video analysis has been completed and they have submitted the final set of sediment samples for grain size measurements. All other data sets are complete and being prepared for data tables to be included in the final report.

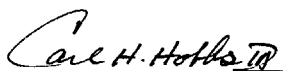
Task 2: Shoreline and Beach Studies and **Task 3:** Bottom Imagery and Bathymetry: Jesse McNinch and Scott Hardaway inform me that work on their combined final report is in progress.

Task 4: Wave Studies: Jerome Maa continues working on data analysis and the report.

Task 5: Project Management: I am working with all of the investigators. There are no significant developments to report. Several weeks ago you indicated that we should arrange a meeting here at VIMS to present and discuss the results of the work to date. The sense of my colleagues is that such a meeting should take place in late November or early December. Our better meeting room presently is available on November 17, 29, December 1, 8, 12, 13, and 14. If you would like me to set up such a meeting, please let me know as soon as you which of these is the best date so that I can secure the room.

As always, should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me or any of the other contributors.

Sincerely,



Carl H. Hobbs, III
Associate Professor and Project Manager

Copy: MMS: J. Kendall, W. Adcox, R. Amato
VIMS: R. Diaz, C. Tallent, J. McNinch, G. Browder, S. Hardaway, D. Milligan, J. Maa,
C. Harris, M. Fonner, G. Wikel